

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 56 and 57 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus claims 1-48, 53-55, 58 and 59 are pending and under consideration. Claims 58 and 59 have been amended. No new matter is included in this amendment.

The 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection:

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 56 and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,670,599 to Wagner et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,056,448 to Sauter et al. Claims 56 and 57 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus, the rejection of claims 56 and 57 is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter:

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-48 and 53-55 are allowed and that claims 58 and 59 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 58 and 59 have been so rewritten in independent form; thus, claims 58 and 59 are deemed to be in allowable form.

Conclusion:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

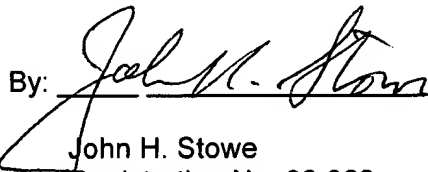
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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